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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Bloomington Hospital receives funding for Positive Link Supportive Housing Project

INDIANAPOLIS- Lt. Governor Becky Skillman recently announced the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) has received \$5.6 million for supportive housing projects for the homeless throughout Indiana. The allocation comes from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) 2009 Continuum of Care funds.

IHCDA received the direct allocation from HUD as they administer Indiana's Continuum of Care network, which excludes South Bend and Indianapolis. Of the \$5.6 Million allocation, locally, Bloomington Hospital, Inc. received \$228,274 for its Positive Link supportive housing program, Housing Links.

"Our local community partners will be able to utilize these funds as they provide assistance for our most vulnerable neighbors," said Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, who chairs the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority. "This award is another collaborative step toward our long term goal to end homelessness in the state of Indiana."

The funds awarded to Positive Link will go directly toward the leasing and services provided to 16 homeless persons with HIV/AIDS in 8 units across six counties. The scattered site project will allow residents to remain in their community of choice.

"Homelessness and HIV are linked in a variety of ways. People in either group are at increased risk for the other," said Jill Stowers, program manager of Bloomington Hospital's Positive Link. "Receiving Supportive Housing funds from HUD allows us to address that need right here in our own communities."

In all, IHCDA was allocated funds for the capital investment and operating needs of six Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) developments located throughout Indiana. The projects will link housing with services so over 200 people will have a place to call home.

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The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA), chaired by Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, creates housing opportunity, generates and preserves assets, and revitalizes neighborhoods by investing financial and technical resources in the development efforts of qualified partners throughout Indiana. IHCDA believes that growing Indiana's economy starts at home. For more information, go to www.ihcda.in.gov. For updates from Lt. Governor Skillman and the agencies she oversees, please sign up at www.lg.in.gov.

About Bloomington Hospital:

Bloomington Hospital, a Clarian Health Partner, has been innovative in providing quality care to south central Indiana communities for more than a century. Offering a comprehensive continuum of care, Bloomington Hospital is a not-for-profit organization and has a patient base of 413,000 in 10 counties (Brown, Daviess, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Owen and Washington). Bloomington Hospital currently operates two hospital campuses (Bloomington and Orange County) with regional specialty offerings for Heart and Vascular, Behavioral Health, Cancer, Women and Children, Neurology and Orthopedic services. As a leading hospital in Indiana, Bloomington Hospital enhances health by advancing the art and science of medicine through the use of new technologies, procedures and care.